

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to place the above-identified application in more proper format under United States practice.

By the present Preliminary Amendment original Claims 1-17 are cancelled and new Claims 18-34 are presented for examination. New Claims 18-34 are deemed to be self-evident from the original disclosure, including original Claims 1-17, and thus are not deemed to raise any issues of new matter.

The Abstract has also been amended by the present response to be in more proper format under United States practice.

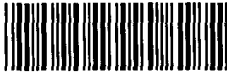
The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-17 (Cancelled).

Claims 18-34 (New).

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

--ABSTRACT

[The invention relates to a] A tool for producing expanded camshafts. [According to the invention, said tool comprises] The tool includes at least one modular dye [which is] made up of segments [(9) which] that are joined together and [which] that are provided with opposing slides [(32, 37)] for centering and aligning the cams around the axis [(16)] of the shafts.--